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AUTHOR ...

Nik Pa, Nik Azis B.

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ABSTRACT

This document lists references on the teaching of fractions, with many of the entries annotated. They are alphabetized by the author by categories: Activity and Game; Addition and Subtraction; Teaching Aids; Application; Assessment; Curriculum; Decimal; Common Fraction; Division; Equivalence of Fractions; Errors; Fraction Concept; Multiplication; Rate and Ratio; Research; and Teaching. (MP)

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A BIBLIOGRAPHY OF ARTICLES ON FRACTIONS

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Nik Azis B. Nik Pa /
Department of Mathematics Education
University of Malaya
Kuala, Lumpur
Malaysia

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A Eibliography of articles on fractions

Fractions occupy an important place in school mathematics programes. According to the survey of the Friorities in School Vathematics Project. (1981', four major goals of teaching fractions are related to; (a) their use in vocation, (b) consumer purchases, (c) illustrating basic mathematical ideas and (d) providing solution to alrebraic equations. The teaching of fractions has always been a challenge to teachers in all grades. That it continues to be a challenge is attested to by the recent report of the National Assessment of Educational Progress (1990). According to this report, 13-, and 17- year-olds students find fractions to be a difficult topic. Although many of them can successfully apply an algorithm, they have little understanding of the underlying concepts ard processess. Students appear to be learning many mathematical skills at the rote manipulative level. In this article a series of hibliography that involved activity and name, addition and subtraction, teaching aids, application, assessments, curriculum, decimals, division, errors, equivalent fractions, fraction concept, multiplication, rate and percent, research and teaching of fractions will be presented. It is the hope. of the author that teachers of mathematics who want to emphasize meaning and understanding prior to intensive work with formal alforithms involving fractions will find some of these articles useful.

To conserve space, abbreviations are used for some of the titles of the peroidicals in the list itself. Full titles are listed below:

ATT American Mathematical Monthly

AT Arithmetic eacher

DA Pissertation Abstracts

.DAI Dissertation Abstracts International.

ESJ Elementary School Journal

GT Prade eacher

JER Journal of Educational, Research

JRVE Journal for Research in Tathematics Education.

Mathematics meacher

SSY School Science and Mathematics.

Activity and game

Albuquerque, H. D.. Fraction action-gameboard route helps kids compute.

Learning, 1978, 2, 84.

Armstrong, C.. Fradecent- a game using equivalent fractions, decimals, and percents. AT, 1972, 3, 222-223.

Bradfield, D. L.. Sparking interest in the mathematics classroom. AT, 1970, 3, 239.

Carlisle, E. Crazy fractions: An equivalence game. AT, 1973, 4, 303-304 Cook, Nancy. Fraction bingo. AT, 1970, 3, 237-239.

Reese, J.W.. Yardstick game. Instructor, 1970,11,36.

Staritzky, M.. Pass a fraction. Instructor, 197/3, 84.

Zytkowski, R.T., A game with fraction numbers. \underline{AT} , 1970, $\widehat{1}$ 82-83.

Addition and Subtraction

Adachi, Mitsuo. Addition of unlike fractions. AT, 1968, 3, 221-223.

Beacker, A. L.. Remedial work in the addition of common fractions.

California Journal of Elementary Education, 1940,9,43-47.

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Burns, M.. The Math connections is yours to make. Learning, 1979, 1,69-70.

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 Teaching Aids.
- Ashlock, R.B.. Introducing decimal fractions with the meterstick.

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 Creative Publications, 1980.
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Jeanine, M... Renaming fractions greater than one. Catholic School

Journal, 1966, 4, 72.

Leutzenger, L.P. & Nelson, G. Fractions with models. Al, 1980, 5, 6 - 11.

Litwiller, B. H. & Ducan, D. Fraction action. <u>leacher</u>, 1977,12, 47.

Sanders, W. J.. The use of models in mathematics instruction.

AT, 1964, 3, 157 - 165.

Sanok, 7, Mathematics and saltine crackers. AT, 1980, 12, 36.

Schiller, D, P. The effects of the fraction ruler manipulative for teacher computation of fractions. The Clearing House,

1977, 3, 300 - 303.

Scott, W. Fractions taught by folding paper strips. AT, 1981, 1, 18-21 Sherill, J.M. Egg cartons agains ?! AT, 1973, 1, 13 -14.

Sherman, H. Fractions over easy. Teacher, 1978, 9, 139-142.

Sowder, 1. Models for fractional numbers-a quiz for teachers. AT,

Sowder, L.. Criteria for concrete models. AT, 1976, 10, 468 - 470.

Sprau, D. From the file: Fractions. AT 1980, 12, 44.

and le Valle, J. & Thompson, C.S.. Fraction with counters. AT, 19^{80} , 9, 6 - 11.

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wnill, G. Fingerprints and fractions. T, 1980, 11, 608-609.

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Kolesnik, T.S. The division of common fractions. AT, 1960,

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He found that the common-fraction equivalents, the expended exponential notation and number-line approaches-- no significant differences.

Bergen, P.M. Action research on di ision of fractions. AT, 1966, 4, 293-295.

Bidwell, J.K. A comparative study of the learning structures of three algorithms for the division of fractional numbers.

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He found that for division of fractions the inversion algorithm was favored, followed by the complex fraction and common denominator algorithm.

- Bisio, R.M. Effect of manipulative materials on understanding operations with fractions in grade . DAI, 1971, 8, 32A, 833. He found that the passive use of the manipulative materials appeared to be as effective as their active use and better than no use.
- Bohan, H.J. A study of the effective of three learning sequences for equivalent fractions. <u>DAI</u>, 1971, 31, 6270A.
 - when paper folding was compared with a property-of- one procedure, no significant differences were found expect for retention, where paper folding was favored.
- Bragg, S.C. Using student interest in developing curriculum materials in decimal fractions and informal geometry with emphasis on practical application for post-secondary low achievers. <u>DAI</u>, 1980, 10, 41A, 1451.
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- Capps, L.R. A comparison of the common denominator and inversion method in teaching division of fractions. DA, 1960, 10, 21, 819-820. See also: Journal of Educational Research, July-August 1963, 56, 516-522. Also The Arithmetic Teacher, January 1962, 9, 10-16.

- He found that there was no significent difference between 'common denominator and inversion algorithms on addition, subtraction, and division with fractions, but the inversion algorithm was better for multiplication with fractions.
- Carney, H.F. The relative effectiveness of two methods of teaching the addition and subtraction of rational numbers. <u>DAI</u>, 1973, 8, 34A, 659-660.
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 DA, 1960, 2, 20, 3317.
- Choate, S.A. The effect of algorithmic and conceptual development for the comparison of fractions. <u>DAI</u>,1975, 9, 36, 1410A.

 He examined the cognitive structures of children who were taught a rule for comparing fractions versus children who were taught a conceptual approach to comparison. It seems that steps in a rule developed side by side with visual diagrams is the least effective way to teach algorithm.
- Coburn, T.G. The effect of a ratio approach and a region approach on equivalent fractions and addition/subtraction for pupils in grade four. DAI, 1974, 2, 34, 4688A-4689A.

 For addition, and subtraction, the region method was favored over the ratio method.
- Davies, R.L. A comparison of the relative efficacy of different methods of teaching fractions to slow-learning children at the secondary stage. Unpublished dissertation for the Diploma in Special Education of the University College of Swansea, 1969.

- Ellerbruch, L.W. The effects of the placement of rules and concrete models in learning addition and subtraction of fractions in grade four. DAI, 1976, 4, 36, 6441A-6442A.
- Galloway, P.W. Achievement and attitude of pupils toward initial fractional number concepts at various ages from six through ten years and of decimals at ages eight, nine and ten. Unpublished doctoral dissertation, University Michigan, 1975.

Among other things he found that students of all age levels had difficulty with number lines and he recommended more work with concrete materials.

Gray, R.E. and Allison, D.E.. An experimental study of the relationship of homework to pupil success in computation with fractions. SSM, 1971, 4, 339-346.

Green, G.A. A comparison of two approaches and two instructional materials on multiplication of fractional numbers. DAI,

She compared the effects of two instructional approaches: area and finding a part of, and two instructional materials: diagrams and manipulative aids on the teaching of multiplication of fractions with fifth graders. She found the following: 1. diagrams and materials were equally effective in learning multiplication of fractions.

2. When comparing the four treatments, the area-diagram

approach was the best, with the part-of-material group ranking second. 3.. An attitude test showed that pupils liked the diagram approach better than the manipulative approach.

Hiebert, J. and Tonnessen, L.H. Development of the fraction concept in two physical contexts: an exploratory investigation. JRME, 1978, 11, 374-378.

Karatzinas, D. and Renshaw, T. Teachers' view of the Cuisenaire method. <u>Scottish Educational Journal</u>, 1958 41, 575; 39,595-596;40,613.

They found that the group using the rods were superior to a control group in a fraction test.

Kieren, T.E. Needed research on rational number learning.

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Kieren, T.E. and Nelson, D. The operator construct of rational numbers in childhood and adolescence an exploratory study. Alberta Journal of Educational Research, 1978,24.

Kyte, G.C. and Fornwalt, J.E. A comparison of superior children with normal children in the rate mastery of the multiplication of fractions. JER, 1967, 4, 346-350.

Larson, C.N. Locating fractions on number lines: effects of length and equivalence. SSM, 1980, 428-428.

He found that for students of grade 7, associating fractions with points of number lines of length one was significantly easier that with number lines of length two.

Miller, G.H. How effective is the meaning method? AT, 1957,

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Muangnapoe, C. An investigation of the learning of the initial concepts and oral/written symbols for fractional numbers in grades three and four. DAI, 1975, 36, 1353A-1354A.

The results of his study shows that high achievement seems to be necessary but not sufficient condition for transfer.

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He concluded that the fifth graders profited from an emphasis on developmental-meaningful activities that included explanations and demonstrations, discussions,



audiovisuals and manipulatives.

Pigge, F.L. Analysis of covariance in a randomly replicated arithmetic methods experiment. The Journal of Experimental Education, 1966, 4, 73-83.

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